

New Los Angeles Zoo Has 72-Year History

Los Angeles now has one of the top five zoos in the United States. But transforming the dream of this major zoological facility into a reality required many years of effort and dedication by interested citizens.

The history of Los Angeles zoos begins in the 19th Century with a small collection of animals on a few feet of park land and continues to the ultramodern 20th century zoo with its outstanding collection of more than 3,200 mammals, birds and reptiles on 110 acres in Griffith Park.

The first zoo in the city's history opened in 1885 in a 100-by-200-foot corner of Lincoln Park (then Eastlake Park). However, the city zoo's modest collection of "cats" and hay-eating animals was overshadowed by the privately owned, 35-acre Seelig Zoo across the street, which exhibited movie animals. The Seelig Zoo operated until 1940.

BY 1912 the city's little zoo proved inadequate, and the Los Angeles City Council provided \$2,000 to move the animals to a new site in Griffith Park and to construct enclosures. The site, a 12-acre gorge, was to serve Los Angeles as a zoo for the next 54 years.

The Griffith Park Zoo benefited from economic recessions in 1914 and in the 1930's, when unemployed workers constructed a huge flight cage, new roads, bear grottos, and other animal en-

idea of a new zoo by approving a bond issue making available funds for the facility. Several delays were encountered and in 1964 construction on the \$10 million zoo was started.

The new, 110-acre zoo was dedicated Nov. 28, 1966, and within the first year, attendance topped two million. During this time, new parking lots, freeway entrances and access roads were opened to better accommodate the visitors.

The Los Angeles Zoo is operated by the city Recreation and Parks Department.

PLANS WERE drawn and sites surveyed, and in 1957 90 per cent of the Los Angeles city voters endorsed the

City Gets \$32,000 in State Fees

SACRAMENTO—Los Angeles County and its cities have received \$1,808,838 as their share of alcoholic beverage license fees payments in compromise for the period from March 1 to Aug. 31.

This included \$193,483 for the unincorporated area of the county and \$32,695 for Torrance.

Statewide, the distribution totaled \$5,055,833. The department of alcoholic beverage control withholds 10 per cent of all license and renewal fees and payments in compromise as revenue for the general fund. The remaining 90 per cent is distributed semi-annually to the

gross business the licensee would have done during the period of suspension, with a minimum payment of \$250 and a maximum payment of \$2,000.

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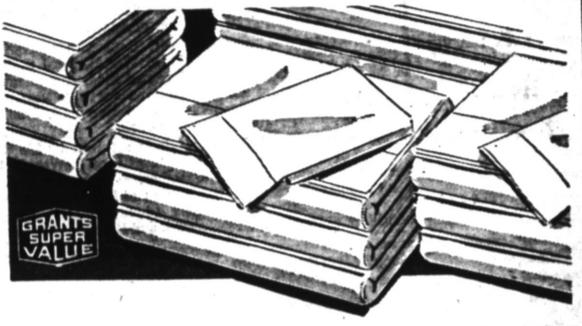
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